WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information record/read apparatus comprising:

an involatile memory including a plurality of sectors which constitute part of a data recording area and are a data erasure unit, a plurality of blocks which are formed by dividing each of the plurality of sectors and each have a data recording area and a block state management area for recording data indicating as to whether data is in an unrecorded, recording or recorded state in the data recording area, and a data recording state management area for recording data indicating recording states of the data in all the plurality of sectors; and

a control section for controlling, according to the record data in the data recording state management area of said involatile memory or to the record data in the block state management area and in the data recording state management area, said involatile memory in a manner that writes data cyclically into the data recording areas of the plurality of blocks of all the sectors, reads the record data, collectively erases the record data on a sector by sector basis, and updates the record data in the block state management area and data recording state management area in accordance with write, read or erasure of the data.

2. The information record/read apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data recording state management area, which is provided independently of the plurality of sectors, records data on numbers of blocks that record data, data on the number of a block that records latest data, and data on the number of a data erasure target sector, and wherein said control section

acquires from the data recording state management area the data on the numbers of the blocks that record the data, the data on the number of the block that records the latest data, or the data on the number of the data erasure target sector, and carries out writing, reading and erasing data in accordance with the acquired data.

3. The information record/read apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data recording state management area, which is provided within an area of each of the plurality of sectors, records data indicating a data erasure state of an immediately preceding sector, wherein said control section calculates data on numbers of blocks that record data and the number of a block that records latest data from the data recording state management area and block state management area, or retrieves data on the number of a data erasure target sector from the data recording state management area, and wherein said control section carries out writing, reading and erasing of data in accordance with the data calculated or retrieved.

4. The information record/read apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control section controls said involatile memory in a manner that erases the record data during a period of time from the data read to data write.

5. The information record/read apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control section controls said involatile memory in a manner that collectively erases data recorded in individual blocks of an erasure target sector after writing data in at least one of the blocks of a sector other than the erasure target

sector.

6. The information record/read apparatus according to claim 5, wherein to carry out data recording during collective erasure of the record data in the erasure target sector, said control section controls said involatile memory in a manner that gives priority to data recording processing by interrupting the collective erasure.